

C-TRAN
attn: Rideshare Specialist
P.O. Box 2529
Vancouver, WA 98668-2529

Place
First Class Stamp
Here

Sharing a Ride is Easy— Call C-TRAN for Help!

The HOV lane not only makes it easier for commuters to get to and from work, it may also persuade people to move from driving alone to sharing a ride. Working to encourage that transition is C-TRAN's ridesharing program. C-TRAN, working in cooperation with Tri-Met, can match commuters with others in their area who want to carpool, vanpool or ride the bus to work. Simply call 360-69-MATCH or complete the attached form and C-TRAN will provide you with a list of compatible poolers and convenient bus routes.

To make it easier to share a ride, the Washington State Department of Transportation and C-TRAN maintain a number of park-and-ride lots. For the name of the park-and-ride lot nearest you, please log onto www.c-tran.com or call 360-695-0123. Bus riding and pooling commuters can leave their cars at park-and-ride lots all day with no parking fee.

HOV Diamonds are a Commuter's Best Friend

Many organizations are working together to make HOV lanes YOUR best commute choice, including:

- Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
- SW Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC)
- C-TRAN
- Tri-Met
- City of Vancouver
- Clark County
- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
- Metro
- Washington State Patrol

You've Got Questions? We've Got Answers!

Log onto www.rtc.wa.gov/hov or call...

General Questions About HOV Lanes

Washington State Department of Transportation
Southwest Region
360-905-2000
www.rtc.wa.gov/hov

Scheduling an HOV Presentation for Your Group

SW Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC)
360-397-6067
www.rtc.wa.gov/hov

Ridematching Assistance

C-TRAN
360-69-MATCH
www.c-tran.com/forms/cm_mail_form.html

General Bus Route and Schedule Information

In Clark County -
C-TRAN
360-695-0123
www.c-tran.com

In Portland -
Tri-Met
503-238-RIDE
www.tri-met.org

Setting up a Commute Options Program at Your Worksites

In Clark County -
C-TRAN
360-906-7458

In Portland -
Tri-Met
503-962-7670



**Washington State
Department of Transportation
Southwest Region**

Frequently Asked HOV Questions

Who can use the Vancouver I-5 HOV lane?

During peak morning traffic hours (6 to 9 a.m.) the HOV lane is reserved exclusively for

- Vehicles with two or more passengers
- Buses
- Motorcycles
- Emergency vehicles.

Who cannot use the Vancouver I-5 HOV lane?

During the HOV hours of operation, the HOV lane may not be used by

- Trucks with three or more axles, regardless of the number of passengers
- People driving alone
- Single drivers passing vehicles in adjacent lanes.

How do I use the HOV lane?

To enter the HOV lane, merge onto the highway as you would normally and then merge onto the far inside lane. If you plan to exit I-5 before the HOV lane ends, you must merge over to the exit lane. If you are traveling past Mill Plain Blvd., the HOV lane becomes a general purpose lane.

Who is considered an HOV passenger?

An HOV passenger is any person in addition to the driver. Your spouse or child qualifies just like any other passenger.

What if a non-HOV uses the lane?

Washington State law provides up to a \$71 fine for violating the HOV requirements. Local court costs may be added to this fine as well. Effective enforcement is a key to equity and fairness for all travelers in the corridor.

Can I ever drive alone in the HOV lane?

YES! The HOV lane will operate as a general purpose lane at all times outside of weekdays between 6 and 9 a.m.

Opening Fall, 2001



An HOV Lane is Coming to I-5 in Fall, 2001!

Vancouver's first HOV (high occupancy vehicle or carpool) lane on I-5 South is tangible evidence that we are building a highway system not only for today, but also for the future. This lane is our region's first step toward a vision of ensuring a reliable and safe corridor during congested peak travel times for all commuters choosing to ride in carpools, vanpools or buses.

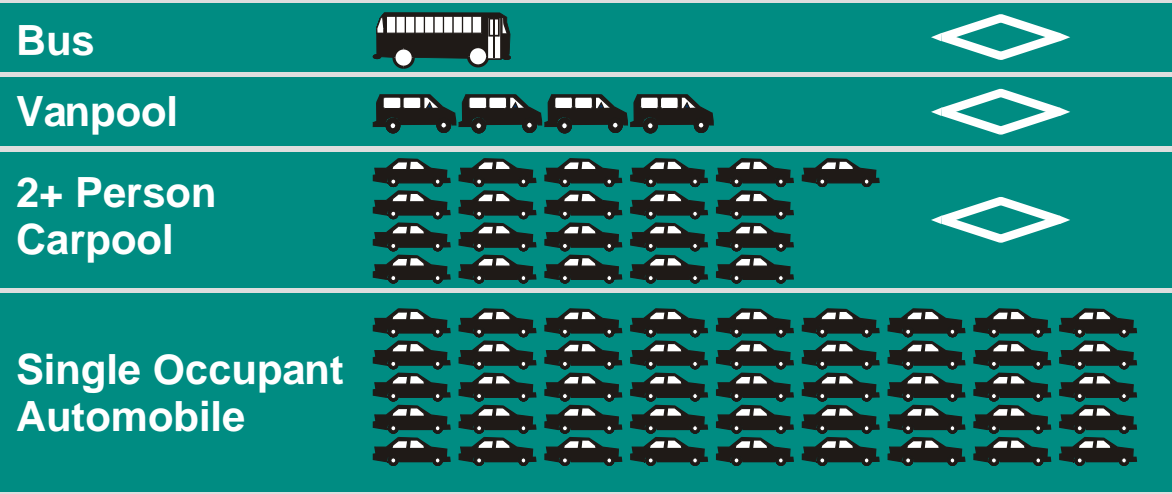
The I-5 HOV lane through Vancouver will open to carpools and buses in the fall of 2001. The Vancouver lane is the initial phase of a bi-state plan that includes a southbound lane in Oregon during the morning commute. Future extension would be in conjunction with the I-5 widening in Delta Park that is currently under discussion.

What is an HOV Lane and Where Will it Be?

HOV stands for High Occupancy Vehicle. An HOV lane is a highway lane reserved for the use of carpools, vanpools and buses. An HOV lane is identified by white diamond symbols painted on the pavement.

The HOV lane through Vancouver is being built on I-5 southbound between 99th Street and Mill Plain Blvd. This lane will be open to all vehicles carrying two or more people during the morning peak hours of 6 to 9 a.m. It will be open to all traffic during the rest of the day.

Number of vehicles needed to carry 45 people



What is an Effective HOV Lane?

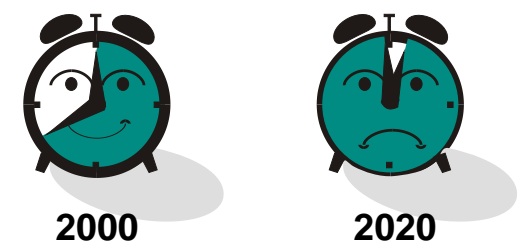
To some drivers the new HOV lane may seem empty. In fact, HOV lanes are designed to carry fewer vehicles but more people. If the HOV were filled to capacity with cars, it would operate as slowly as the other lanes and offer no enticement for commuters. For example, the current Portland HOV lane not only carries more people but does it 6 to 8 minutes faster than the adjacent general purpose lanes. This daily guaranteed travel-time savings for pooling or bus riding commuters is a powerful and persuasive incentive to leave their cars at home.

The HOV lane in Portland zips vehicles along and carries 2600 people per hour during the afternoon peak period. During that same time period each adjacent general purpose lane carries only 1600 people and often is a "go and slow" situation. Commuter welfare—which takes into account the lane's impact on air quality, traffic congestion, best road usage and other factors—is the best overall way to evaluate the effectiveness of this, and any HOV project.

Why Not Just Build Another Lane for Everyone ?

I-5 is our region's most congested highway and is only going to get worse. We simply do not have enough space or money to continue to expand I-5 at a rate that will allow us to keep up with anticipated increases in traffic. According to the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council, the number of commuters crossing the Columbia River is projected to increase by almost 40% over the next 20 years. This means that the average commute time on I-5 will increase from 40 minutes to 1 hour by the year 2020. Carpoolers, vanpoolers and bus riders using the HOV lane in 2020 will save as much as 12 minutes on the I-5 portion of their commute. HOV lanes represent planning for the future, and they are being added to I-5 in Vancouver to ensure that commuters will always have a speedy and safe travel option.

Morning Commute Time Driving Alone on I-5 Between Salmon Creek Park & Ride and Downtown Portland



Ridematch Application

Name_____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Contact Phone Number (Work) _____

(Home)_____

Major cross street to your home _____

Commute Days (check all that apply)

- ☐ Monday ☐ Tuesday ☐ Wednesday
☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐ Saturday
☐ Sunday

Arrival Time _____ ☐ AM ☐ PM

Departure Time_____ ☐ AM ☐ PM

How flexible is your commute schedule

(+/- minutes): AM_____ PM_____

Employer/School_____

Address_____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Major cross street to your work _____

Interest Areas (check all that apply)

- ☐ Vanpool ☐ Bus

Carpool:

- ☐ Rider Only ☐ No Smoking
☐ Driver Only ☐ Special Needs
☐ Rider / Driver

